

THIRD SESSION

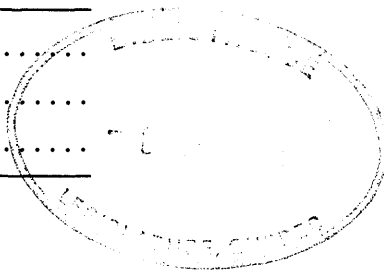
THIRTY-SECOND LEGISLATURE

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY OF QUÉBEC

Bill 89

An Act respecting the Ministère du Commerce extérieur

First reading
Second reading
Third reading



M. BERNARD LANDRY

Minister responsible for External Trade

QUÉBEC OFFICIAL PUBLISHER

1982

EXPLANATORY NOTES

The object of this bill is the establishment and organization of a Ministère du Commerce extérieur.

The bill provides in particular that a Minister of External Trade will have a mandate to devise policies respecting the external economic and commercial relations of Québec and to propose them to the Government, with a view to promotion of the economic development of Québec.

The Minister will be responsible for the administration of the policies, in cooperation with the governmental departments and agencies concerned.

BILL 89

An Act respecting the Ministère du Commerce extérieur

HER MAJESTY, with the advice and consent of the National Assembly of Québec, enacts as follows:

DIVISION I

ORGANIZATION OF THE DEPARTMENT

1. The Minister of External Trade has the direction of the Ministère du Commerce extérieur.

2. The Government shall appoint, in accordance with the Civil Service Act (R.S.Q., chapter F-3.1), a Deputy Minister of External Trade.

3. Under the authority of the Minister, the Deputy Minister has the general direction of the business of the department.

He shall supervise the personnel of the department.

In addition, he shall exercise the functions assigned to him by the Government or the Minister.

4. The orders of the Deputy Minister must be carried out in the same manner as those of the Minister; his authority shall be that of the Minister.

5. The personnel necessary for the administration of the department shall be appointed and remunerated in accordance with the Civil Service Act.

6. The Minister shall determine the duties of the personnel of the department not expressly defined by law or by the Government.

DIVISION II

FUNCTIONS AND POWERS OF THE MINISTER

7. The Minister shall devise policies respecting the external economic and commercial relations of Québec, and propose them to the Government, so as to promote the economic development of Québec.

The Minister, in cooperation with the governmental departments and agencies concerned, shall see that the policies are carried out.

8. The functions and powers of the Minister shall particularly consist in

(1) facilitating the entry of goods and services produced in Québec on external markets by carrying out promotional schemes, entering into agreements and seeing to the establishment and development of external economic and commercial relations;

(2) devising and implementing assistance programs for the promotion of exports and the conclusion of industrial agreements;

(3) providing such services for business firms and for the governmental departments as he considers necessary for the development of exports and the conclusion of industrial agreements, particularly training, information, documentation and promotional services and the organization of missions, training periods or exhibitions;

(4) cooperate with other governmental departments in seeking foreign investment;

(5) coordinate, within the framework of the external policy of Québec, the economic and commercial activities of the governmental departments and the public corporations outside Québec;

(6) organize and manage, in cooperation with the governmental departments and the business firms concerned, programs of economic cooperation in those sectors where exchanges are most likely to promote the economic development of Québec;

(7) carry out or cause to be carried out research, surveys or analyses in the field of external economic and commercial relations, particularly on market demands and conditions, products exported or with export potential, changes in customs duties, commercial regulations and agreements, and marketing strategies, practices or techniques.

9. The Minister may enter into any agreement with any government other than that of Québec, any department of such a government, any international organization, or any agency of such a government or organization, in order to carry out his functions.

10. The functions and powers which the Minister has under this Act must be exercised in accordance with the Act respecting the Ministère des Affaires intergouvernementales (R.S.Q., chapter M-21).

11. The Minister shall table a report in the National Assembly of the activities of the department for each fiscal period within six months after the end of the period if the Assembly is in session or, if it is not sitting, within thirty days after the opening of the next session or after resumption.

DIVISION III

DOCUMENTS OF THE DEPARTMENT

12. The signature of the Deputy Minister gives authority to any document within the competence of the department.

13. No deed, document or writing shall bind the department or be attributed to the Minister unless it is signed by him, by the Deputy Minister or by a member of the personnel of the department and, in the case of such a member, only to the extent determined by regulation of the Government.

14. The Government may, by regulation, on such conditions and in respect of such documents as it may determine, permit

(1) a signature to be affixed by means of an automatic device;

(2) a facsimile of a signature to be engraved, lithographed or printed; in such a case, the facsimile has the same force as the signature if the document is countersigned by a person authorized by the Minister.

15. Every regulation made by virtue of section 13 or 14 comes into force ten days after the date of its publication in the *Gazette officielle du Québec* or on any later date fixed therein.

16. A copy of a document forming part of the records of the department and certified true by a person referred to in section 13 is authentic and has the same validity as the original.

17. Notwithstanding the time limit fixed by section 2 of the Photographic Proof of Documents Act (R.S.Q., chapter P-22),

documents in the department's possession may be destroyed as soon as they have been reproduced.

DIVISION IV

TRANSITIONAL AND FINAL PROVISIONS

18. Section 4 of the Executive Power Act (R.S.Q., chapter E-18) is amended by adding, at the end of the first paragraph, the following subparagraph:

“(26) A Minister of External Trade.”

19. Section 1 of the Government Departments Act (R.S.Q., chapter M-34) is amended by adding, at the end, the following paragraph:

“(24) The Ministère du Commerce extérieur.”

[[**20.** The Government may, for the fiscal period 1982-1983, determine the sums required for the administration of this Act; the sums shall be taken out of the consolidated revenue fund.]]

21. This Act shall operate notwithstanding the provisions of sections 2 and 7 to 15 of the Constitution Act, 1982 (Schedule B of the Canada Act, chapter 11 in the 1982 volume of the Acts of the Parliament of the United Kingdom).

22. This Act comes into force on the date fixed by proclamation of the Government, with the exception of the provisions excluded by that proclamation, which will come into force on any later dates fixed by proclamation of the Government.